

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EPG-02 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 FEA-01 OIC-02

/116 W

-----090242Z 089895 /61

R 090208Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9415

UNCLAS MANILA 6944

PASS TO ERDA FOR JACK VANDERRY, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, RP

SUBJ: SPEAKER FOR ENGINEERING FOUNDATION CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 092376

1. WE BELIEVE SECRETARY GERONIMO Z. VELASCO WOULD BE AN IDEAL RESOURCE SPEAKER FOR THE CONFERENCE ON ENERGY OPTIONS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SPONSORED BY THE ENERGY FOUNDATION.

2. MR. VELASCO IS THE CHIEF OPERATING AND POLICY MAN FOR ENERGY AFFAIRS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES. HE SERVES AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD AND PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY, CHAIRMAN OF THE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE POWER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION.

3. THE PHILIPPINES IS A NON-OIL PRODUCING LDC WHICH HAS TAKEN MANY NEW POLICY INITIATIVES AND INSTITUTED NEW PROGRAMS TO COUNTER-ACT THE EFFECTS OF THE OPEC PRICE HIKES, THE MOST SERIOUS BEING AN ANNUAL INCREMENTAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE DRAIN OF \$800 MILLION. THE EFFORTS INCLUDE BOP FINANCING FROM THE IMF OIL FACILITY, DEVERSIFYING

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SOURCES OF CRUDE IMPORTS, INTENSIFYING OIL EXPLORATION THROUGH A NEW SERVICE CONTRACT SYSTEM, AND VARIOUS INITIATIVES TO DEVELOP ALTERNATE ENERGY SOURCES INCLUDING COAL, BIO-GAS, AND MOST SIGNIFICANTLY GEOTHERMAL. THE PHILIPPINES HAS ALSO ADOPTED THE NUCLEAR POWER ALTERNATIVE, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME RE-EVALUATING THE NATION'S HYDRO POTENTIALS.

4. THE GIST OF PHILIPPINE ENERGY POLICY IS TO HIT ALL POSSIBLE FRONTS IN AN ATTEMPT TO MAKE SOMETHING OUT OF NOTHING. THE GOP HAS CO-ORDINATED ALL ENERGY RELATED EFFORTS IN THE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT BOARD COMPOSED OF CABINET MINISTERS CHAIRED BY SECRETARY VELASCO. THE IMPLEMENTING ARM FOR MOST POLICIES IS THE PNOC, ALSO CHAIRED BY VELASCO.

5. THE PHILIPPINES APPEARS TO HAVE ADOPTED A PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO ALLEVIATING THE EFFECTS AS BEST IT CAN OF WHAT IS BASICALLY AN UNSOLVABLE PROBLEM; PROVIDING ENERGY FOR DEVELOPMENT IN A NON-OIL PRODUCING LDC AT TODAY'S CRUDE COSTS. SECRETARY VELASCO WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE RESOURCE PERSON TO PRESENT AN OVERVIEW PAPER PROVIDING THE LDC POINT OF VIEW ON PROBLEMS OF ASSURING AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE ENERGY IN APPROPRIATE FORMS, OR IN PRESENTING A CASE STUDY IN THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL PROCESS OF FACTORING TRADE-OFFS FOR ENERGY GENERATION.

6. THE EMBASSY HAS NOT APPROACHED SECRETARY VELASCO ON THIS MATTER.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: TECH, ENRG, RP, (VELASCO, GERONIMO Z)
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